

U.S. Attorney's Office Western District of Texas

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SAN ANTONIO WOMAN SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON FOR ASSISTING IN PRISONER ESCAPE

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that in San Antonio, Texas, Debra Ann Ayala was sentenced today to nine months in federal prison after pleading guilty to her role in harboring federal prisoners after they escaped from the Frio County Jail on August 6, 2004.

In addition to the prison term, United States District Judge Orlando Garcia ordered that Ayala be placed under supervised release for a period of three years after completing her prison term and pay \$625.62 restitution for damage caused to the jail fence during the escape.

On November 30, 2004, Ayala pled guilty to one count of instigating and assisting escape. By pleading guilty, Ayala admitted that from August 6, 2004 to August 14, 2004, she harbored at least four of the five escapees in her home.

Robert Lee Jack, one of Ayala's co-defendants, faces up to five years in federal prison after pleading guilty to the same charge on January 20, 2005. He is scheduled to be sentenced on May 12, 2005. Randy Wayne Folsom, a third defendant in this case, is awaiting sentencing after pleading guilty to the same charge on April 14, 2005. Sentencing for Folsom is scheduled for July 28, 2005.

On August 6, 2004, Victor Hugo Nava-Franco, Manuel De La Fuente, Luis Angel Garcia-Esparza, Jorge Arturo Castaneda-Silva and Reymundo Flores Alaniz escaped from the Frio County Jail where they were being held on federal charges pending in the Southern District of Texas. Victor Hugo Nava-Franco, Manuel De La Fuente and Reymundo Flores Alaniz have been captured and are currently in federal custody. Luis Angel Garcia-Esparza are Jorge Arturo Castaneda-Silva are still fugitives.

Yesterday, Manuel De La Fuente was sentenced to 18 months in federal prison after pleading guilty to escape. Reymundo Flores Alaniz is currently awaiting sentencing after pleading guilty to escape on March 11, 2005. Sentencing for Alaniz, who faces up to five years imprisonment, is scheduled for June 30, 2005. No trial date has been scheduled for Nava-Franco.

This case was investigated by the United States Marshals Service and prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Don Calvert and David Counts.

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